

Love, for the Day Is Near—Romans 13:8–14

Topics: Holiness, Last Days, Law, Love, Purity, Sin

Open It

1. What sort of actions communicate love to you?

Romans 13:8–14 (ESV)

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

⁹For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed.

¹²The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

¹³Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy.

¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Explore It

2. In what area of life is a Christian to maintain a continuing debt? (13:8)
3. What one command sums up all the other commands? (13:9)
4. What act and attitude is the fulfillment of the Law? (13:10)
5. What “hour” had arrived for the Roman Christians? (13:11)
6. How did Paul encourage his audience to live godly lives? (13:11–12)
7. What kind of behavior contrasts with what God wants of us? (13:13)
8. What should a Christian be thinking about each day? (13:14)

Get It

9. What does it mean that love is the fulfillment of the Law?
10. How would you live if you knew the world would end in six months?
11. What personal relationship do you want to improve by earnestly loving that person as yourself?

Apply It

12. What specific gesture of love or kindness can you use to build a relationship this week?